

grown fruits and vegetables. This program helps low-income women and children as well as our local farmers. In 2009, Maryland distributed \$403,000 vouchers to 42,000 WIC clients. This also helped 260 Maryland farmers sell their crops.

In addition, Maryland is home to two land grant institutions: University of Maryland at College Park and University of Maryland Eastern Shore. They rejected the House cuts to land grant university research and extension programs and keep them in good standing. These programs support food and agriculture research, provide peer-reviewed, competitively awarded grants, help attract top-notch scientists, fund youth programs, including 4-H, and reach out and solve community needs for small farmers and business owners.

Maryland's No. 1 industry is agriculture. We have both the traditional industry sectors and nontraditional: everything from poultry, to dairy to organic farms and vineyards and a specialty nursery industry. This bill supports these farmers and small business owners, but it also supports all Americans by protecting our public health and safety when it comes to our food supply, drugs, and medical devices.

Mr. President, I also wish to thank Chairman MURRAY and Senator COLLINS for their hard work on this bill. I say to the Senators, you worked together in a bipartisan way and with collegiality. You had a tight allocation and had to make tough choices. But you did an outstanding job, and you have my full support for this bill.

I support this bill because it is a jobs bill. It provides formula funding to the States for our highways, byways, and subways. According to the U.S. Department of Transportation, every \$1 million spent on transportation creates 13 jobs.

This bill will hire the construction workers and engineers to widen our highways and build new bridges. The bill also provides \$550 million for TIGER Grants, the discretionary grant program begun in the economic recov-

ery bill. This competitive grant program funds road, rail, transit, and port projects.

This bill provides nearly \$16 billion for the Federal Aviation Administration, the current year funding level. This funding supports our air traffic controllers, air safety personnel, and construction jobs at our airports.

This bill also provides funding to maintain the Maritime Security Program. This program maintains 60 U.S. flagships, crewed by U.S. citizens, to service both commercial and national security needs.

This bill provides \$120 million for Choice Neighborhoods. Choice Neighborhoods uses the lessons of HOPE VI. It builds upon them to reach more communities and turn ZIP Codes of poverty into healthy, vibrant communities.

It also provides much-needed funding for veterans' housing, a total of \$75 million, to get them the housing help they need. Our Nation owes our vets a debt of gratitude, and I will keep fighting to show that gratitude not just with words, but with deeds.

For Maryland, this bill guarantees \$750 million in Federal transportation formula funding. Within this amount, Maryland receives \$600 million for highways and \$150 million for transit. It also supports 9,750 jobs. About half of Maryland's highway and transit capital projects are funded with these Federal dollars.

In addition, this bill funds Metro here in our Nation's capital, providing \$150 million for safety improvements, including new rail cars, track, and signal upgrades. It also guarantees Metro's \$228 million in Federal formula funding for capital improvements. This funding combined supports nearly 5,000 public and private sector jobs.

Infrastructure and housing investments are vital to sustain economic growth and create jobs. I support Senate action on multiyear transportation and aviation authorization bills and infrastructure bank legislation. But agreement and passage of these bills is

going to take some time. This appropriations bill is a jobs bill we can pass now to get Americans back to work in the near term.

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I previously filed committee allocations and budgetary aggregates pursuant to section 106 of the Budget Control Act of 2011. I am further adjusting some of those levels, specifically the allocation to the Committee on Appropriations for fiscal year 2012 and the budgetary aggregates for fiscal year 2012.

Section 101 of the Budget Control Act allows for various adjustments to the statutory limits on discretionary spending, while section 106(d) allows the chairman of the Budget Committee to make revisions to allocations, aggregates, and levels consistent with those adjustments. Senator LAUTENBERG has offered Senate amendment No. 836 to the appropriations bill for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and related agencies. That amendment includes \$365 million in 2012 funding that is designated for disaster relief pursuant to the Budget Control Act of 2011. CBO estimates that budget authority would result in \$18 million in outlays in 2012.

In addition, Senator GILLIBRAND has offered Senate amendment No. 869 to the Agriculture appropriations bill. That amendment includes \$110 million in 2012 funding that is designated for disaster relief pursuant to the Budget Control Act of 2011. CBO estimates that budget authority would result in \$44 million in outlays in 2012.

Therefore, in total, I am revising the allocation to the Committee on Appropriations and to the budgetary aggregates by \$475 million in budget authority and \$62 million in outlays.

I ask unanimous consent that the following tables detailing the changes to the allocation to the Committee on Appropriations and the budgetary aggregates be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

DETAIL ON ADJUSTMENTS TO FISCAL YEAR 2012 ALLOCATIONS TO COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS PURSUANT TO SECTION 106 OF THE BUDGET CONTROL ACT OF 2011

	\$s in billions	Program integrity	Disaster relief	Emergency	Overseas contingency operations	Total
Amendments—Lautenberg SA 836 & Gillibrand SA 869:						
Budget Authority .....		0.000	0.475	0.000	0.000	0.475
Outlays .....		0.000	0.062	0.000	0.000	0.062
Memorandum 1: Breakdown of Above Adjustments by Category:						
Security Budget Authority .....		0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Nonsecurity Budget Authority .....		0.000	0.475	0.000	0.000	0.475
General Purpose Outlays .....		0.000	0.062	0.000	0.000	0.062
Memorandum 2: Cumulative Adjustments (Includes Previously Filed Adjustments):						
Budget Authority .....		0.893	8.588	0.000	126.544	136.025
Outlays .....		0.774	1.669	-0.007	63.568	66.004

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

THE DEPARTURE OF LISA WOLSKI

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, it has been said no one is indispensable and that may be true, but next week we will test that theory after the departure of my chief of staff, Lisa Wolski. Lisa has been on my whip staff since January of 2003. She started as tax counsel in my personal office, because I serve on the

Finance Committee, and then moved to the whip office in late 2007.

We refer to people around here as staffers. She is more than that. That name doesn't begin to encapsulate what we think of those people who work with us every day and provide us with all the things we need to try to be successful. That certainly is Lisa Wolski. She is and always has been one